



# **Growth Trends in Mecklenburg County**

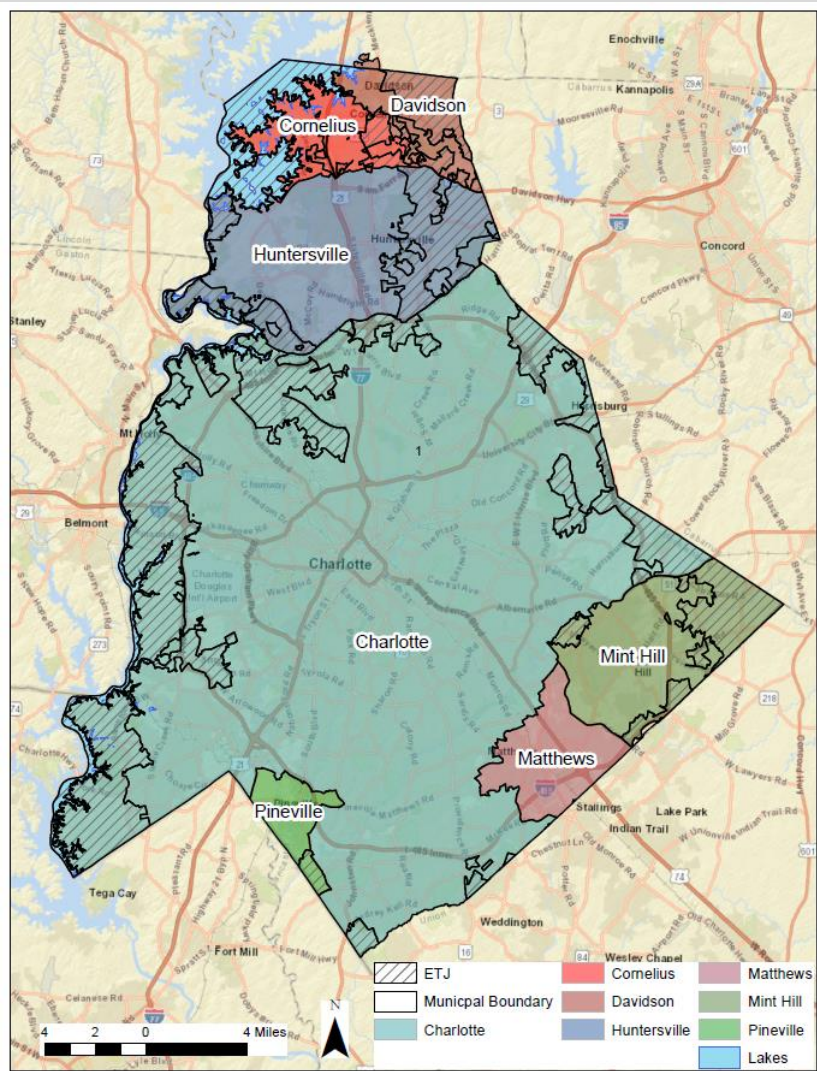
MEAC Meeting – December 4, 2018



# Sources & Notes

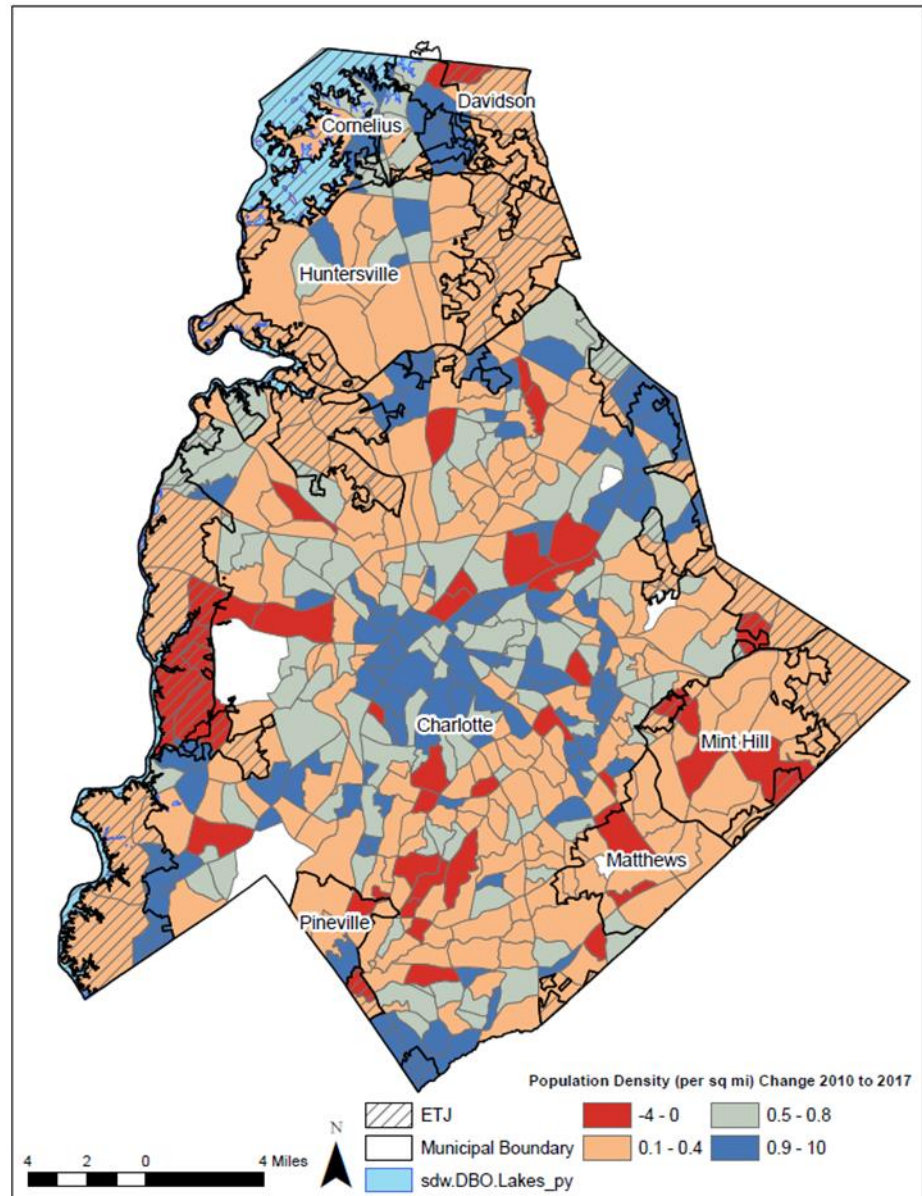
- Historic population estimates retrieved from the U.S. Census, 2010 and 2017
  - Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program – updated annually
  - Utilizes data on births, deaths, and migration to calculate population change since the most recent decennial census
- Population projections, 2015 to 2045
  - County-level population projections developed by UNC-Chapel Hill for the Metrolina Region under the auspices of the Charlotte Department of Transportation for the Metrolina Region Travel Demand Model – updated every 5 years
  - County-level population projections allocated to Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) by City Explained, Inc. through the Metrolina CommunityViz Model for the Charlotte Department of Transportation – updated every 5 years
  - TAZ-level population projections aggregated to municipal Spheres of Influence by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department
- School-age Youth / Student Enrollment
  - CommunityViz model contains build-out potential analysis for Student Enrollment – projections are for schools located within each jurisdiction
  - This analysis uses projections for total school-age youth population (ages 5 to 17, per Census age categories) by jurisdiction, regardless of school location
  - MEAC opens opportunity for increased collaboration in growth modeling

# Mecklenburg County Population & Area, 2017



| Jurisdiction   | Land Area (sq mi) | Population 2017 | % of County Total |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Charlotte      | 307.9             | 859,035         | 79.8%             |
| Huntersville   | 40.4              | 56,212          | 5.2%              |
| Matthews       | 17.2              | 32,117          | 3.0%              |
| Cornelius      | 12.2              | 29,191          | 2.7%              |
| Mint Hill      | 24.2              | 26,748          | 2.5%              |
| Davidson       | 6.2               | 12,684          | 1.2%              |
| Pineville      | 6.7               | 8,746           | 0.8%              |
| ETJ            | 111.8             | 52,104          | 4.8%              |
| Mecklenburg Co | 526.6             | 1,076,837       |                   |

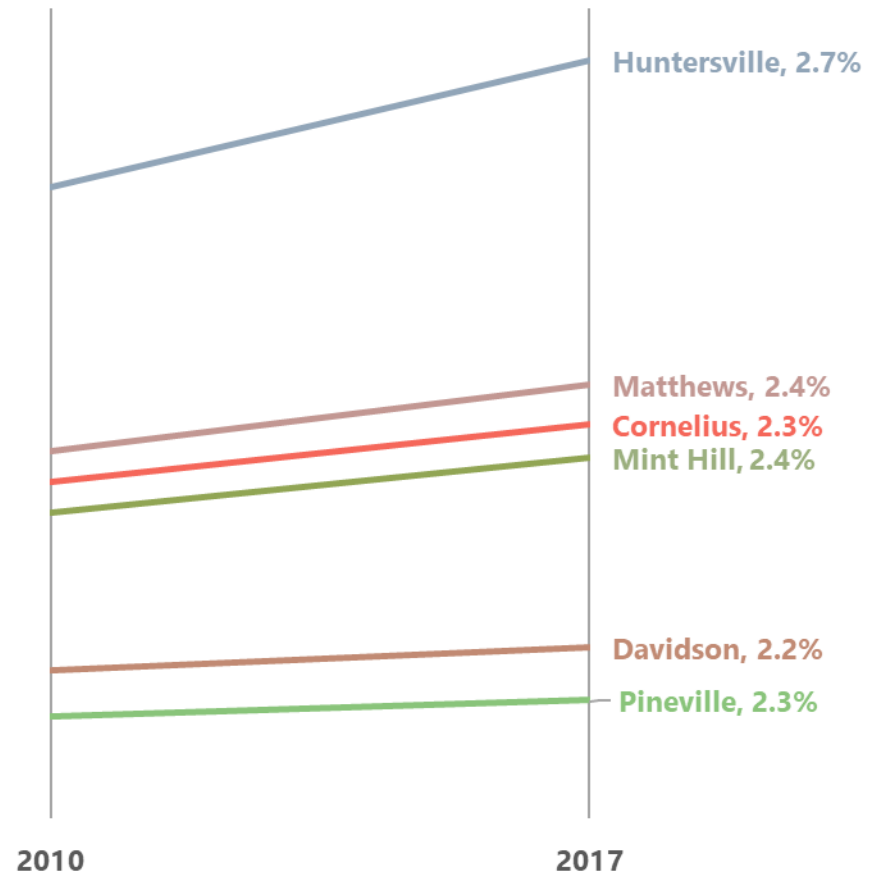
# Change in Population Density, 2010 to 2017



# Historic Growth by Jurisdiction, 2010 to 2017

From 2010 to 2017, the Mecklenburg County population increased by **~157,000 people** (annual growth rate of 2.3%). The annual growth rate varied slightly by municipality, from a low of **2.2% in Davidson** to a high of **2.7% in Huntersville**.

| Jurisdiction   | Population<br>2010 | Population<br>2017 | Population<br>Change |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Huntersville   | 46,763             | 56,212             | 9,449                |
| Matthews       | 27,183             | 32,117             | 4,934                |
| Cornelius      | 24,869             | 29,191             | 4,322                |
| Mint Hill      | 22,655             | 26,748             | 4,093                |
| Davidson       | 10,908             | 12,684             | 1,776                |
| Pineville      | 7,479              | 8,746              | 1,267                |
| Charlotte      | 735,688            | 859,035            | 123,347              |
| Mecklenburg Co | 919,650            | 1,076,837          | 157,187              |

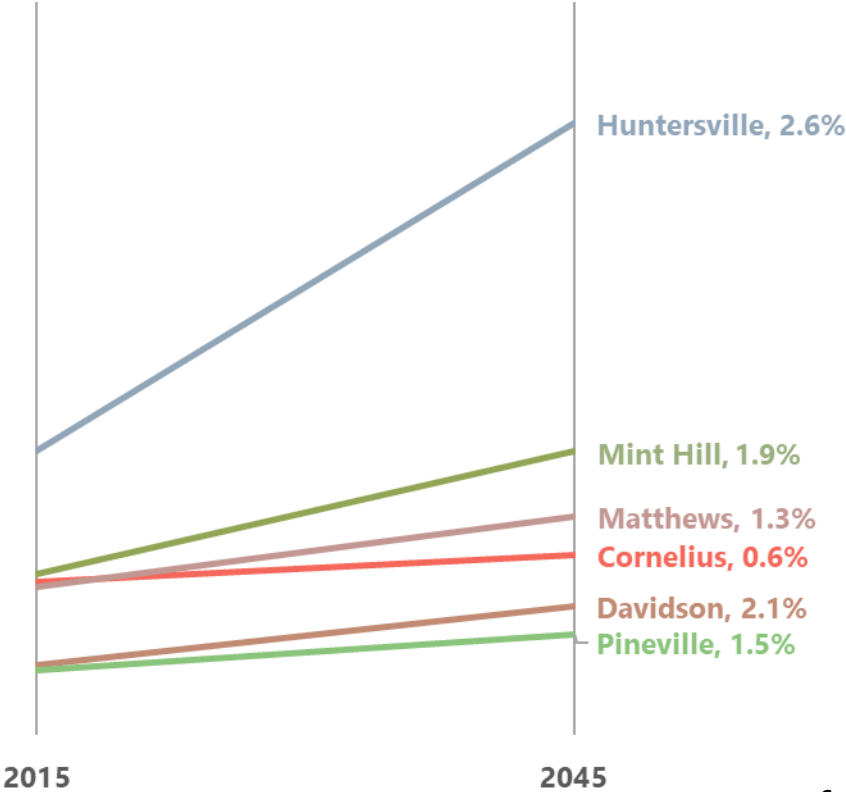




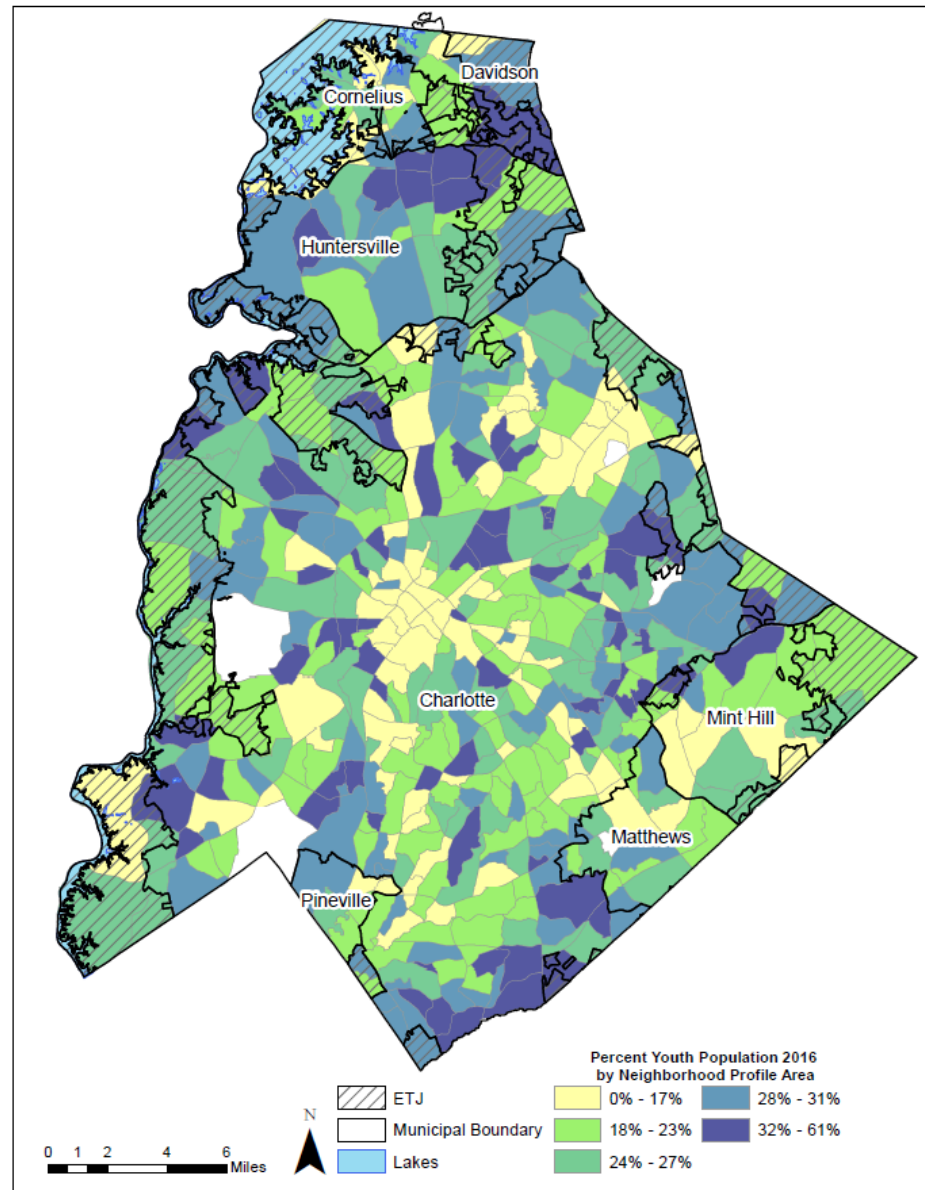
# Projected Growth by Jurisdiction, 2015 to 2045

Between 2015 and 2045, the Mecklenburg County population is projected to increase by **~610,000 people** (annual growth rate of 1.6%). The annual growth rate is projected to vary by municipality, from a low of **0.6% in Cornelius** to a high of **2.6% in Huntersville**.

| Jurisdiction   | 2015      | 2025      | 2035      | 2045      |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Huntersville   | 54,297    | 74,373    | 94,270    | 116,909   |
| Mint Hill      | 30,591    | 38,684    | 46,496    | 54,072    |
| Cornelius      | 29,150    | 31,403    | 32,979    | 34,406    |
| Matthews       | 28,207    | 33,647    | 38,064    | 41,668    |
| Davidson       | 13,314    | 17,372    | 20,967    | 24,681    |
| Pineville      | 12,441    | 15,241    | 17,551    | 19,223    |
| Charlotte      | 835,575   | 1,007,823 | 1,165,475 | 1,322,813 |
| Mecklenburg Co | 1,003,575 | 1,218,543 | 1,415,802 | 1,613,772 |

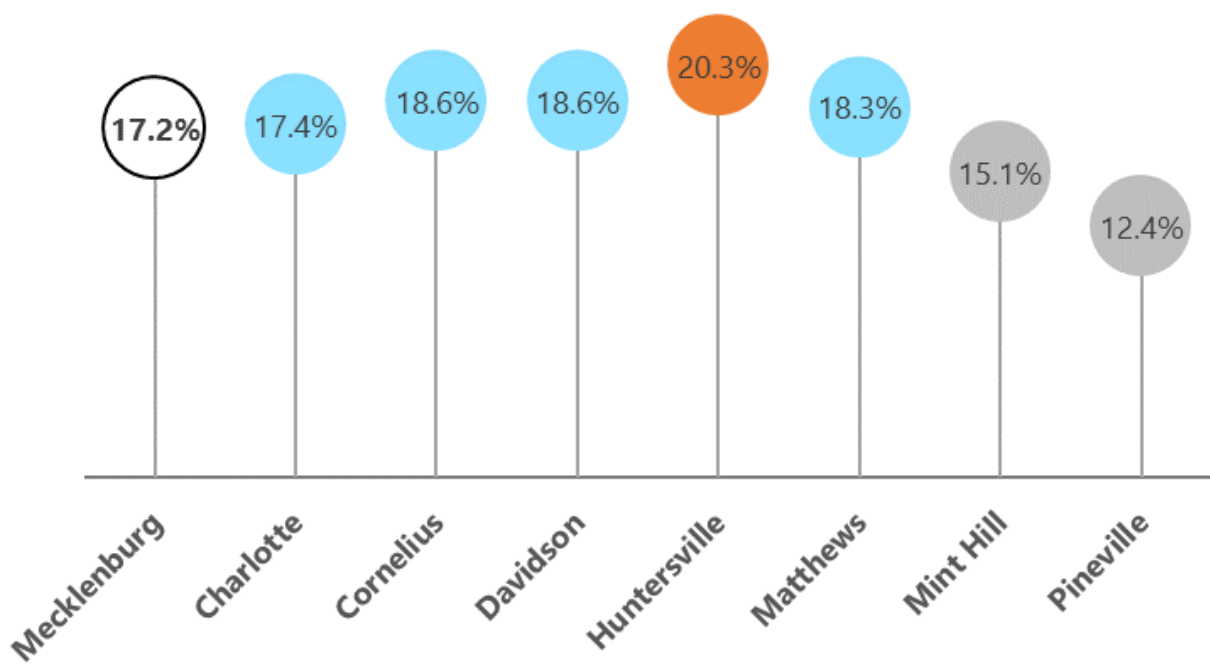


# Percent Children by NPA, 2016



# School-Age Youth Percentage by Jurisdiction, 2017

Overall in **Mecklenburg County**, **17.2%** of the population are school-age youth (ages 5 to 17). Population composition varies by municipality: **Huntersville (20.3%)** has the highest percentage of school-age youth, while **Mint Hill (15.1%)** and **Pineville (12.4%)** are lower than average.

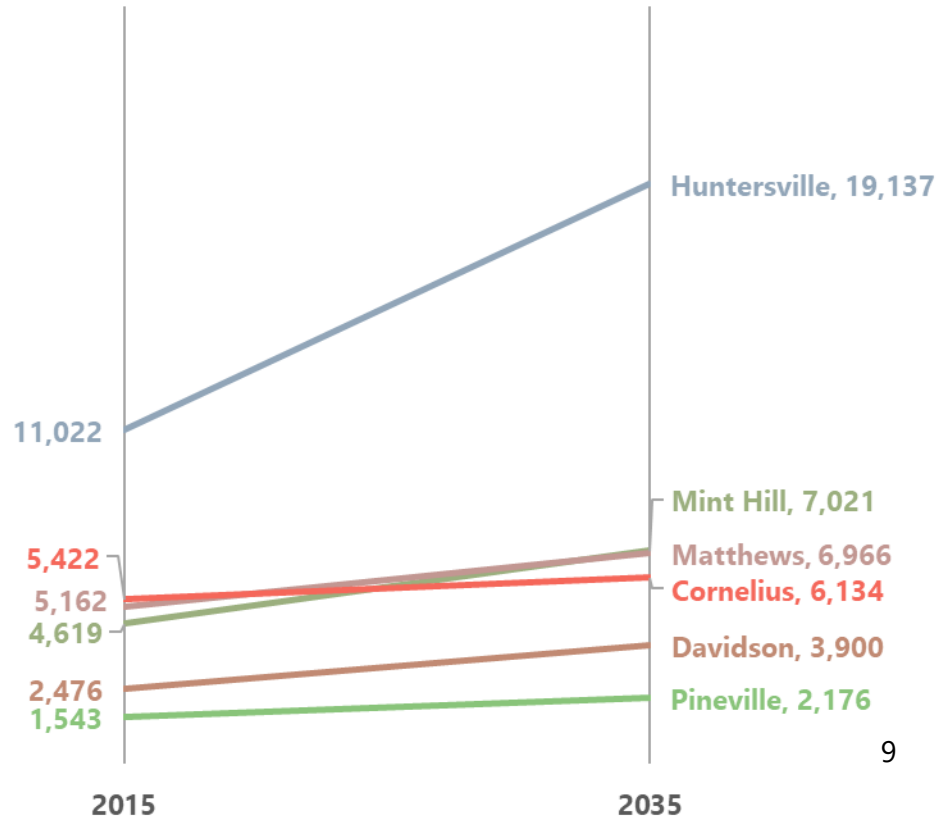




# School-Age Youth Projected Growth, 2015 to 2035

Between 2015 and 2035, the total Mecklenburg County population is projected to increase by ~412,000 people. Assuming constant composition, the school-age population would grow by **~70,900** to a total of ~243,000 school-age youth. Consistent with total population, most of that growth would occur in **Charlotte (~81%)**. Growth in school-age population would range from a low of **~630 in Pineville** to a high of **~8,100 in Huntersville**.

| Jurisdiction   | 2015    | 2035    | Growth |
|----------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Charlotte      | 145,390 | 202,793 | 57,403 |
| Huntersville   | 11,022  | 19,137  | 8,115  |
| Mint Hill      | 4,619   | 7,021   | 2,402  |
| Matthews       | 5,162   | 6,966   | 1,804  |
| Davidson       | 2,476   | 3,900   | 1,423  |
| Cornelius      | 5,422   | 6,134   | 712    |
| Pineville      | 1,543   | 2,176   | 634    |
| Mecklenburg Co | 172,615 | 243,518 | 70,903 |



# Limitations & Opportunities

- School-age youth / student enrollment data
- Population projections – update period
- Opportunity for increased collaboration in growth modeling and coordination in capital planning

# Thank You!

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### Source Credits:

- Matt Noonkester, [City Explained, Inc.](#) for Charlotte Department of Transportation (2016)
- Stephen J. Appold & Paul R. Voss, UNC Chapel Hill for Charlotte Department of Transportation (2016)
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg [Quality of Life Explorer](#) (2016 and 2017)
- [U. S. Census](#), Population Estimates Program (2010 and 2017)

